



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
ACCORDING TO 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)**

APPLICANT(S): T. Niederdränk                          DOCKET NO: P03,0228  
SERIAL NO.: 10/608,589                                  ART UNIT: 2644  
FILED: June 27, 2003                                    EXAMINER:  
    CONF. NO. 8450

TITLE: MODULAR HEARING AID DEVICE

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98, Applicant respectfully requests that a citation and examination of the references identified on the attached PTO 1449 form be made during the course of examination of the above-identified application for United States Patent.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed according to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) and before the latter occurrence of:

- (1) three months from the filing date of a national application;
- (2) three months from the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.491 in an international application; or
- (3) the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

**REMARKS**

The attached PTO 1449 form lists related art references for the above identified application.

**EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE**

The relevance of references AA, AM and AN is discussed in the Specification. An English-language abstract of references AM and AN has been provided, and a full translation will be produced at the request of the Examiner. Reference AL was

cited during the prosecution of the priority case. A translation of the reference characters has been provided on the drawing figure and a full translation of this reference will be produced at the request of the Examiner.

The filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not to be construed as an admission that the information cited in the present Information Disclosure Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

The above citation of related art is not a representation that such art constitutes a complete or exhaustive listing of all pertinent related art, nor that it necessarily includes the closest or most relevant art. The aforementioned citation comprises a voluntary citation of related art of which applicant and his attorney are presently aware and is not intended to serve as a substitute for the Examiner's own search.

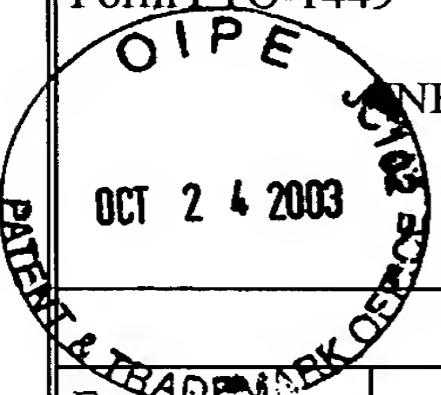
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#### **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on October 21, 2003.

Mark Bergner

Form PTO-1449  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b> (use several sheets if necessary)					Docket No. P03,0228	Serial No. 10/608,589	
					Applicant Torsten Niederdränk		
					Filing Date June 27, 2003	Group Art Unit 2644	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
Examiner's Initials		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If appropriate
	AA	5,204,917	04/20/1993	Arndt et al			
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation
	AL	G 88 04 743.1	09/21/1989	German Gebrauchsmuster			Ref chars
	AM	196 35 229	03/12/1998	Germany			Abstract
	AN	198 52 758	05/25/2000	Germany			Abstract
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
<b>OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>							
	AT						
	AU						
	AV						
	AW						
Examiner			Date Considered				
<b>*EXAMINER:</b> Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							